

LACKAWANNA FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Director Jim Kuna
Department of Public Safety
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218

Dear Director,

It is with great pride that I submit to you the annual report of the Lackawanna Fire Division for the year ending December 31, 2018.

The Lackawanna Fire Division responded to 2,915 calls in 2018, which is 1% higher than last year. Of that amount, 2,040 were for emergency medical services, accounting for 70% of our total calls. We had 46 structure fires, which is much higher than last year. We also had 422 false alarms, which is the highest amount in the last ten years

The department received good news in being awarded another Assistance to Firefighters Grant. This grant allowed us to replace our attack and supply hose, purchase three attack monitors which can be used to safely fight larger fires, train with a realistic rescue dummy and basic life support dummy and safely lift patients with EMS lifting devices. With left over funds we were able to purchase new portable radio batteries, many of which were no longer able to keep a charge due to age. Major work was completed at Station #3, repairing and preventing further water damage to the second floor and replacing the first-floor furnace. The department continued to diversify with the hiring of another female and black firefighter. The Fire Marshal was turned into a full-time position in June and is averaging 130 unit inspections per month since that time.

In closing, I would like to thank you, the Mayor and the members of the City Council for your support of the Department. I also wish to extend my gratitude and respect for the dedication and professionalism which is the trademark of all the members of the Lackawanna Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Galanti
Fire Chief

Organization

The Fire Department is a Division within the Department of Public Safety. It is headed by the Fire Chief and it is divided into the following bureaus:

1. **Firefighting Bureau**- which is supervised by a commissioned officer, who is responsible for the extinguishment of fire, the saving of life and property from fire and the performance of various public services of an emergency and non-emergency nature.
2. **Fire Prevention Bureau**- which is supervised by the Fire Marshal, who is responsible for the inspection of potential fire hazards, the abatement of existing fire hazards and the conducting of an educational fire prevention program.
3. **Training Bureau**- which is supervised by the Training Officer, who is responsible for all training required by local, state and federal regulations and any training deemed necessary for the proper conduct of the Department.

The Department operates on a four platoon system with a company at each of the three firehouses. A Captain is in charge of the platoon and an individual company. There are two Lieutenants on a platoon, each in charge of an individual company and firehouse. The work schedule is 24 hours on duty and 72 hours off duty, with platoon change at 8:00 AM.

The Department operates out of three firehouses. Each firehouse has one company operating a piece of apparatus. For alarms of fire, all three companies respond. For EMS calls the individual company responds in their district.

- **Station #1**, 55 Ridge Road, covers essentially the 1st Ward for EMS calls.
 - It is manned by a Lieutenant and two firefighters.
 - A 1997 Spartan Pumper, designated **E1**, is based there. It has a 1500 gallon per minute pump and carries 750 gallons of water for a quick attack.
- **Station #2**, 1630 Abbott Road, covers essentially the 3rd and 4th Wards for EMS calls.
 - It is manned by a Lieutenant and one firefighter.
 - A 2006 American LaFrance 100' Aerial Platform, designated **L6**, is based there. It has a 2000 gallon per minute pump and a 300 gallon water tank. Due to the size of the truck and the many dead end streets in the 3rd and 4th Wards, a 2009 Ford F-350, designated **R2**, answers EMS calls in place of the ladder truck.
 - The Fire Chief's Office is attached to this firehouse. The Fire Chief answers calls in a 2017 Ford Explorer, designated **L5**.
- **Station #3**, 2990 South Park Avenue, covers essentially the 2nd Ward for EMS calls.
 - It is manned by a Captain and two firefighters.
 - A 2013 Rosenbauer Pumper, designated **E3**, is based there. It has a 1500 gallon per minute pump and a 764 gallon water tank with a 20 gallon foam tank.
 - A 2002 Chevy Suburban, designated **L9**, is based here for use by the Fire Marshal and Training Officer.
 - The dispatching center for the fire department is located at Station #3. It is manned by one firefighter.

The Fire Department has three reserve apparatus used in cases of a 2nd alarm or when front line apparatus is undergoing repair. **E33** is a 1996 Spartan Pumper with a 1500 gallon per minute pump and a 750 gallon water tank. **E11** is a 1984 Young Pumper with a 1500 gallon per minute pump and a 500 gallon water tank. **L4** is a 1989 Seagrave Quint which has a 110' aerial ladder, a 1500 gallon per minute pump and a 300 gallon water tank.

Firefighting Bureau

In 2018 the Lackawanna Fire Department responded to 2,915 total calls. This is a 1% increase from last year. **Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls accounted for 70% of the total number of calls with a total count of 2040 calls.**

Year	Total Calls	EMS Calls	Structure Fires	False Alarms	# of Personnel
2018	2915	2040	46	422	48
2017	2881	2010	28	400	50
2016	3006	2096	27	418	50
2015	3101	2209	31	408	47
2014	2877	2090	40	343	51
2013	2764	2093	43	323	48
2012	2796	2066	49	335	44
2011	2801	2139	63	332	45
2010	2929	2124	56	387	47
2009	2643	1931	49	324	46

Of the 422 false alarms, only 4 were malicious in nature. The majority of false alarms were unintentional.

Types of False Alarms in 2018	Number of Incidents
Malicious, Mischievous in Nature	4
System Malfunction	48
Unintentional, Accidental in Nature	336
Other False Alarms	34

Station #3 on South Park Ave. was the busiest station making 1,391 runs in 2018.

Station #2 on Abbott Rd. had 843 runs and Station #1 on Ridge Rd. had 681 runs.

There were 14 injuries to Department personnel throughout 2018 with a total loss of 1,423 man-hours.

The department will provide EMS coverage for events that require it. In 2018, we provided this service for the 'Ashley May 5K Run' and the 'Run With The PAC' Race.

Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Marshal averaged 130 unit inspections per month since going full time in June of 2018. These inspections for fire code violations included 295 units in multi-family houses, 126 units in the Gates Avenue Housing project and 271 units in the Baker Housing Project. Also, 176 businesses and public assemblies have been inspected and the Baker Victory Complex with 24 buildings was inspected. The 15 schools located in the city were also inspected.

The Lackawanna Fire Department provides public education to schools and businesses in the city. The fire prevention program is designed to inform young students about fire, and to prepare them in the case of an emergency. It is also an opportunity for the students to become familiar with firefighters and their equipment. For businesses the department offers fire extinguisher training as well as general fire safety.

The 2018 school year offered the department the opportunity to visit Global Concepts Charter School and Monarch Little Learners Academy. Fire prevention and first aid were taught to a girl scout troop and the department hosted tours of the fire house for OLV School students.

The Fire Department also provides a fire prevention program to adult groups. We continue to educate approximately 40 adults in the Life Program at 55 Melroy Avenue. We also provided fire and emergency education to the residents of the 133 Orchard Apartments and at meetings of the Second Ward Block Club.

Fire extinguisher training was conducted at two local businesses, Compass Minerals and Welded Tube.

In community programs, the Fire Department participated in ‘Community Fun Days’, ‘National Night Out’, ‘Steeler Service Day’ at Truman School, the Grand Opening of the Family Dollar in the 1st ward as well as bringing Santa to City Hall for the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Training Bureau

Under the guidance of the Municipal Training Officer, each member was offered over 380 hours of training in such areas as Firefighter Safety, Hazardous Materials, Accident Victim Extrication and Emergency Medical Services. The department also sponsored an Emergency Medical Technician Recertification course earlier in the year.

We had one Lieutenant attend the First Line Supervisors Training Program in New York City. The purpose of the course is to provide new officers with a working knowledge of company-level administrative practices and procedures, company-level procedures for effective fire control, and basic supervisory techniques.

Grant Writing

The Fire Department received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant in 2018 in the amount of \$60,835. This money was used to purchase equipment that was outdated or needed by the department. Included was various sizes of fire hose, attack monitors for large fires, training equipment and patient lifting devices for EMS calls.

Through the years, the Fire Department has received the following grants:

2002	\$48,900	Exercise Equipment for all three firehouses
2005	\$650,000	New Aerial Ladder- Ladder 6
2006	\$12,200	Equipment for trucks
2006	\$3,350	4 children's fire prev videos, brochures, 20 personnel presentations
2007	\$9,975	(300) Smoke/CO Detectors, brochures
2008	\$150,334	(22) SCBA's, (22) Bottles, RIT Pack, Air Fill Station/Compressor
2008	\$5,000	Generator Station #1
2009	\$27,476	Equipment for trucks
2009	\$9,500	various children's fire prevention material
2009	\$21,675	O ² Generating System & Fill Station
2010	\$162,892	(1)Base Station, (32) Portables, (8) Mobile Radios, (8) MDT's
2010	\$14,173	Replacement of all lights w/ energy efficient lighting- all 3 firehouses
2011	\$280,000	New Pumper- Engine 3
2011	\$458,752	4 new hires through SAFER grant (2 years salary + benefits)
2014	\$1,000	Purchase eight 5 gallon pails of F500 Suppression Agent
2014	\$11,905	Pak Tracker System for SCBA's
2014	\$536,324	4 new hires through SAFER grant (2 years salary + benefits)
2015	\$24,762	Washer/Drying System for PPE, Respirator Fit Test System
2017	\$50,000	Rescue Vehicle (L5), Recording System
2017	\$60,835	Fire hose, attack monitors, training equipment, EMS lifting devices

The department has saved the City over \$2,500,000 by aggressively pursuing grant opportunities for needed equipment and manpower.

Member Activities

For the 22nd straight year, a Christmas Food Drive was held by members of the Lackawanna Professional Firefighter's Union, Local 3166. Twelve families were helped this year, receiving food, clothing and gift certificates totaling over \$2,400. To date, over 320 Lackawanna families have been helped during the Christmas season with over \$45,000 being raised.

For the 26th year, members have raised money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association in a 'Fill the Boot' Campaign. In 2018, \$5,500 was collected was collected on the streets pushing the total money raised for MDA to over \$100,000.

2018 Breakdown of Structure Fires & Other Incidents

FIRES IN STRUCTURES BY FIXED PROPERTY USE (OCCUPANCY)	NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	# Civilian Fire Casualties		EST. PROP. DAMAGE
		DEATHS	INJURIES	
Private Dwellings (1 or 2 family), including mobile homes (FPU 419)	11	0	0	\$56,950.00
Apartments (3 or more families) (FPU 429)	25	0	0	\$0.00
Hotels and Motels (FPU 449)	0	0	0	\$0.00
All Other Residential (dormitories, boarding houses, tents, etc.) (FPU 400, 439, 459-499)	4	0	0	\$0.00
TOTAL RESIDENTIAL FIRES (Sum of lines 1 through 4)	40	0	0	\$56,950.00
Public Assembly (church, restaurant, clubs, etc.) (FPU 100-199)	0	0	0	\$0.00
Schools and Colleges (FPD 200-299)	1	0	0	\$0.00
Health Care and Penal Institutions (hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, etc.) (FPU 300-399)	3	0	0	\$0.00
Stores and Offices (FPU 500-599)	0	0	0	\$0.00
Industry, Utility, Defense, Laboratories, Manufacturing (FPU 600-799)	0	0	0	\$0.00
Storage in Structures (barns, vehicle storage garages, general storage, etc.) (FPU 800-899)	1	0	0	\$0.00
Other Structures (outbuildings, bridges, etc.) (FPU 900-999)	1	0	0	\$0.00
TOTAL FOR STRUCTURE FIRES (Sum of lines 5 through 12)	46	0	0	\$56,950.00
Fires in Highway Vehicles (autos, trucks, buses, etc.) (IT 131-132, 136-137)	5	0	0	\$0.00
Fires in Other Vehicles (planes, trains, ships, construction or farm vehicles, etc.) (IT 130, 133-135, 138)	1	0	0	\$0.00
Fires outside of Structures with Value Involved, but Not Vehicles (outside storage, crops, timber, etc.) (IT 140, 141, 161, 162, 164, 170-173)	4	0	0	\$0.00
Fires in Brush, Grass, Wildland (excluding crops and timber), with no value involved (IT 142-143)	3	0	0	\$0.00
Fires in Rubbish, Including Dumpsters (outside of structures), with no value involved (IT 150-155)	4	0	0	\$0.00
All Other Fires (IT 100, 160, 163)	16	0	0	\$1,000.00
TOTAL FOR FIRES (Sum of lines 13 through 18)	79	0	0	\$57,950.00
Rescue, Emergency Medical Responses (ambulances, EMS, rescue) (IT 300-381)	2040	0	0	\$0.00
False Alarm Responses (malicious or unintentional false calls, malfunctions, bomb scares) (IT 700-746)	422	0	0	\$0.00
Mutual Aid Responses Given	0	0	0	\$0.00
Hazards Materials Responses (spills, leaks, etc.) (IT 410-431)	27	0	0	\$0.00
Other Hazardous Responses (arcing wires, bomb removal, power line down, etc.) (IT 440-482, 400)	20	0	0	\$0.00
All Other Responses (smoke scares, lock-outs, animal rescues, etc.) (IT 200-251, 500-699, 800-911)	327	0	0	\$0.00
TOTAL FOR ALL INCIDENTS (Sum of lines 19 through 24)	2915	0	0	\$57,950.00

Runs per Station for 2018

STATION	# INCIDENTS
1 - Station #1	681
2 - Station #2	843
3 - Station #3	1391

Calls per Ward for 2018

WARD	# INCIDENTS
1 - 1st Ward	630
2 - 2nd Ward	949
3 - 3rd Ward	889
4 - 4th Ward	447

Calls per Platoon for 2018

PLATOON	# INCIDENTS
A Platoon	590
B Platoon	729
C Platoon	716
D Platoon	778

Calls per Month for 2018

MONTH	INCIDENTS
January	242
February	213
March	248
April	204
May	236
June	271
July	277
August	263
September	241
October	245
November	254
December	221

Calls per Day of the Week for 2018

DAY OF THE WEEK	# INCIDENTS
Sunday	380
Monday	470
Tuesday	431
Wednesday	433
Thursday	399
Friday	399
Saturday	403

Calls by Hour for 2018

